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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: NYA

Group Art Unit: 2661

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Prior to substantive examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph at Page 1, before line 1 with the following Rewritten Paragraph. A copy of the Marked-Up Paragraph is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

--This application claims priority benefit of PCT/CA00/00712 (designating the United States), filed June 19, 2000, which claims benefit of U.S. Application Nos. 60/139,573,